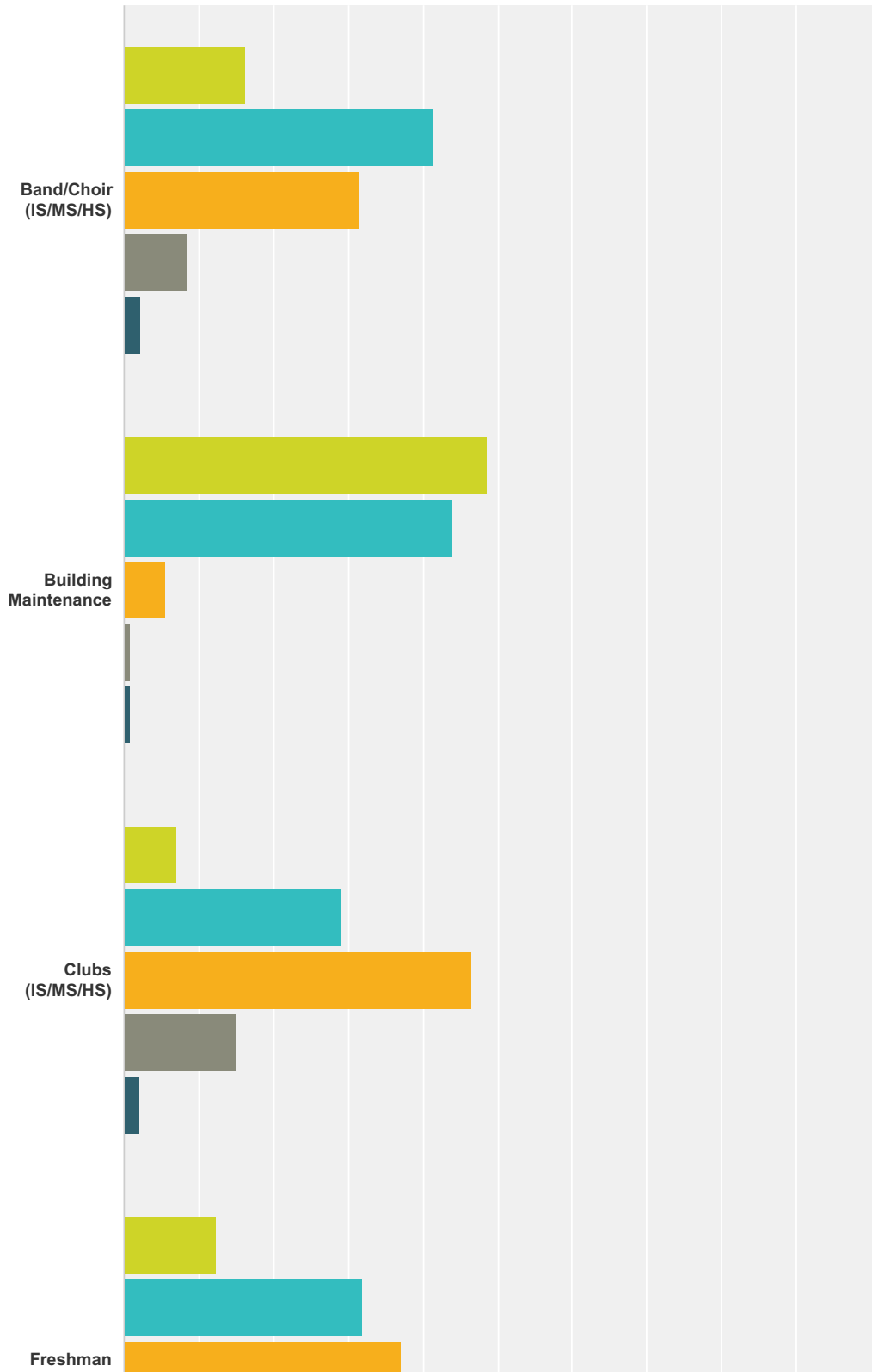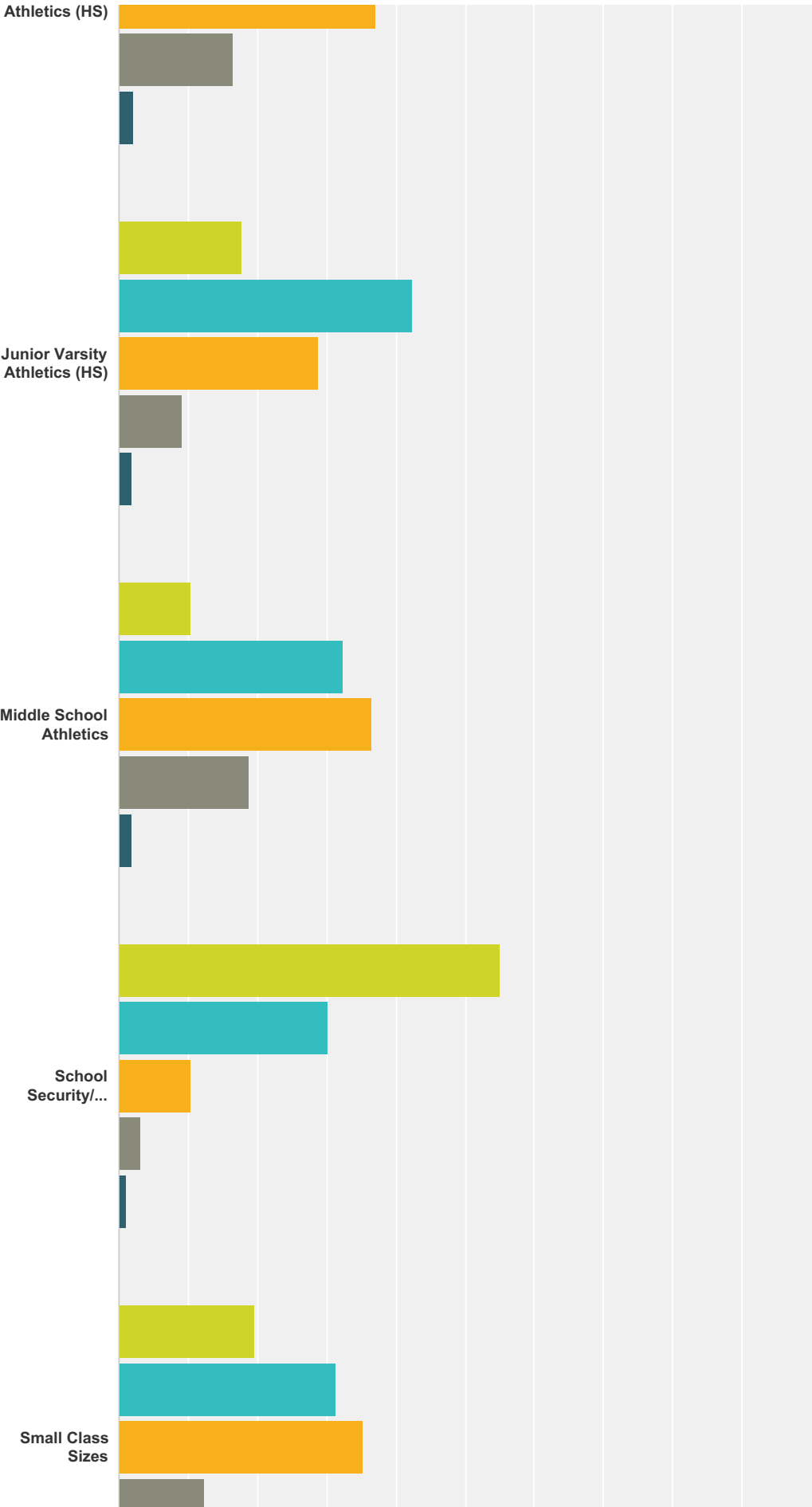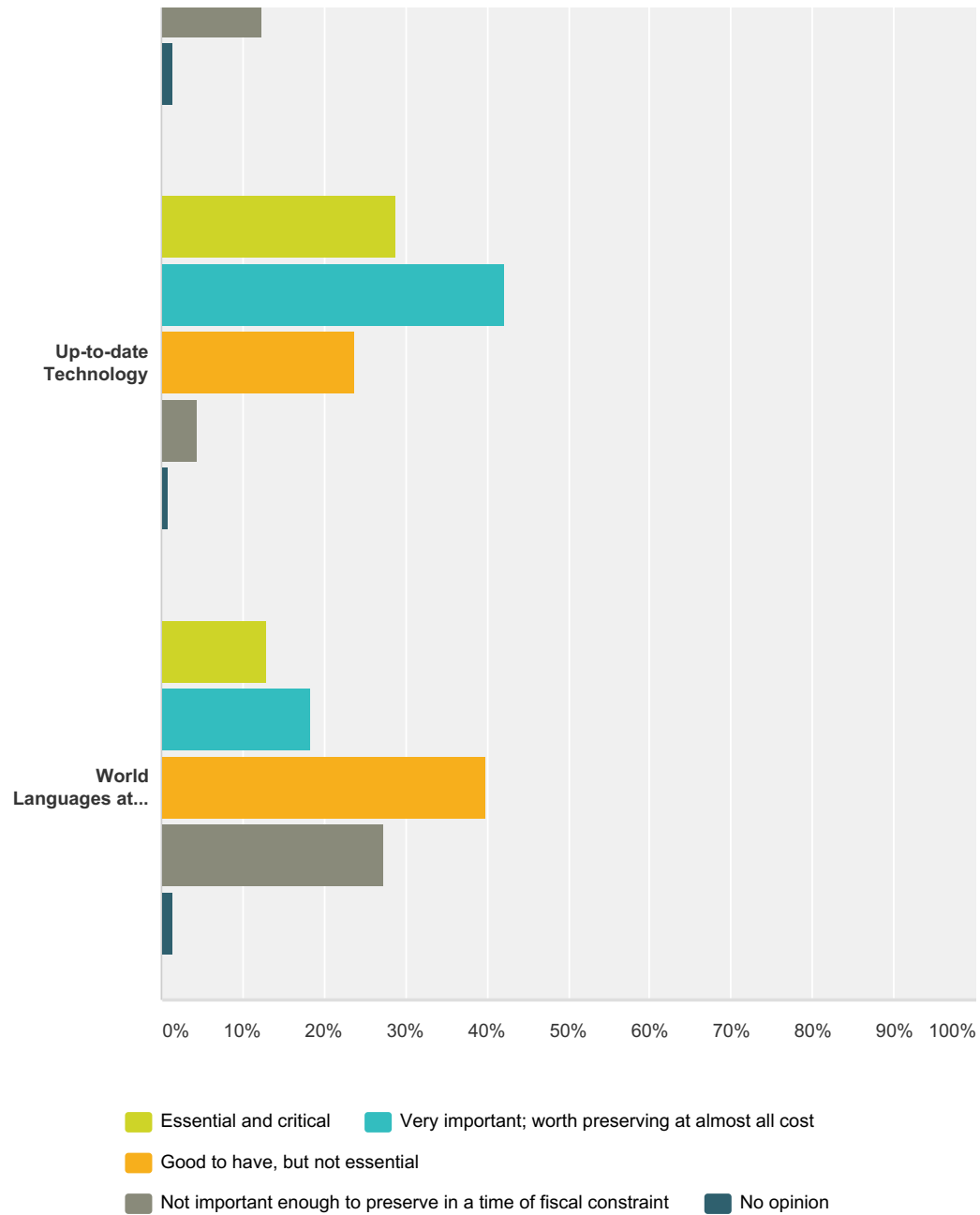## Q1 Please rate each item on its importance for Colchester schools.(ES=Elementary School IS = Intermediate School MS=Middle school HS=High school)

Answered: 658   Skipped: 1

Athletics (HS)

Junior Varsity Athletics (HS)

Middle School Athletics

School Security/...

Small Class Sizes

Essential and critical

Very important; worth preserving at almost all cost

Good to have, but not essential

Not important enough to preserve in a time of fiscal constraint

No opinion

	Essential and critical	Very important; worth preserving at almost all cost	Good to have, but not essential	Not important enough to preserve in a time of fiscal constraint	No opinion	Total
Band/Choir (IS/MS/HS)	**16.18%** 106	**41.37%** 271	**31.60%** 207	**8.55%** 56	**2.29%** 15	655
Building Maintenance	**48.62%** 318	**44.04%** 288	**5.66%** 37	**0.92%** 6	**0.76%** 5	654
Clubs (IS/MS/HS)	**7.14%** 46	**29.19%** 188	**46.58%** 300	**15.06%** 97	**2.02%** 13	644
Freshman Athletics (HS)	**12.40%** 81	**31.85%** 208	**37.21%** 243	**16.54%** 108	**1.99%** 13	653
Junior Varsity Athletics (HS)	**17.71%** 116	**42.44%** 278	**28.85%** 189	**9.16%** 60	**1.83%** 12	655

Middle School Athletics	**10.48%** 68	**32.36%** 210	**36.52%** 237	**18.80%** 122	**1.85%** 12	649
School Security/ Safety	**55.05%** 360	**30.28%** 198	**10.40%** 68	**3.21%** 21	**1.07%** 7	654
Small Class Sizes	**19.69%** 129	**31.30%** 205	**35.27%** 231	**12.37%** 81	**1.37%** 9	655
Up-to-date Technology	**28.75%** 188	**42.20%** 276	**23.70%** 155	**4.43%** 29	**0.92%** 6	654
World Languages at Lower Grades	**12.96%** 85	**18.45%** 121	**39.79%** 261	**27.29%** 179	**1.52%** 10	656

Q2 For each of the items listed below, please indicate your support of additional funding in the upcoming year's school budget to maintain current services:

Answered: 652   Skipped: 7
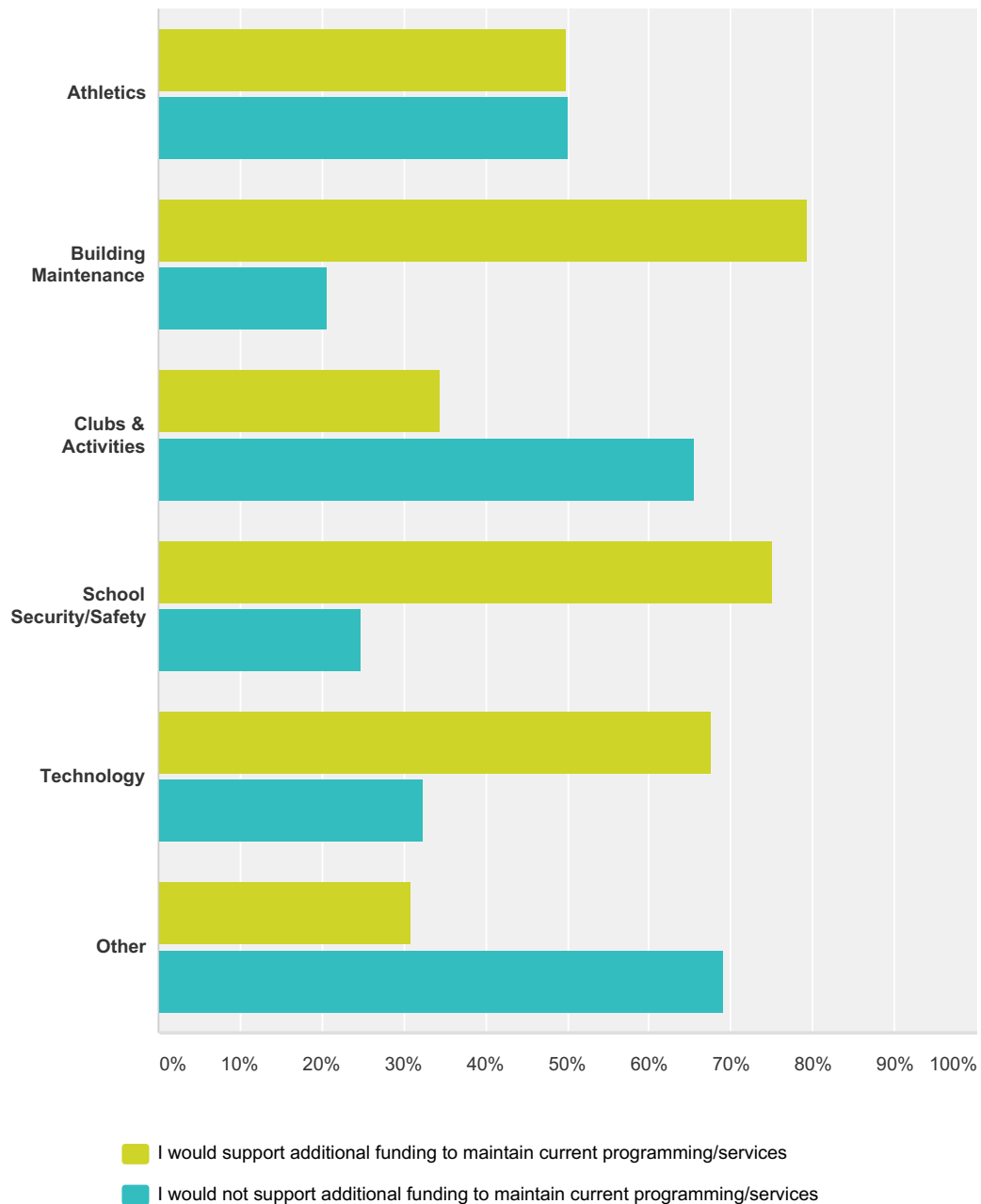
Legend:
- ■ I would support additional funding to maintain current programming/services
- ■ I would not support additional funding to maintain current programming/services

	I would support additional funding to maintain current programming/services	I would not support additional funding to maintain current programming/services	Total
Athletics	**49.85%** 324	**50.15%** 326	650
Building Maintenance	**79.23%** 515	**20.77%** 135	650

Clubs & Activities	**34.53%** 221	**65.47%** 419	640
School Security/Safety	**75.08%** 485	**24.92%** 161	646
Technology	**67.70%** 438	**32.30%** 209	647
Other	**30.93%** 60	**69.07%** 134	194

Q3 Please use this space to add additional comments about school priorities and budget.

Answered: 141   Skipped: 518

Q4 4. Creating a budget is a balance between providing needed and/or desired services and their tax cost. Please prioritize these major town budget categories from 1 to 6, where 1 is the highest priority and 6 is the lowest priority. (Use each number once)

Answered: 616   Skipped: 43
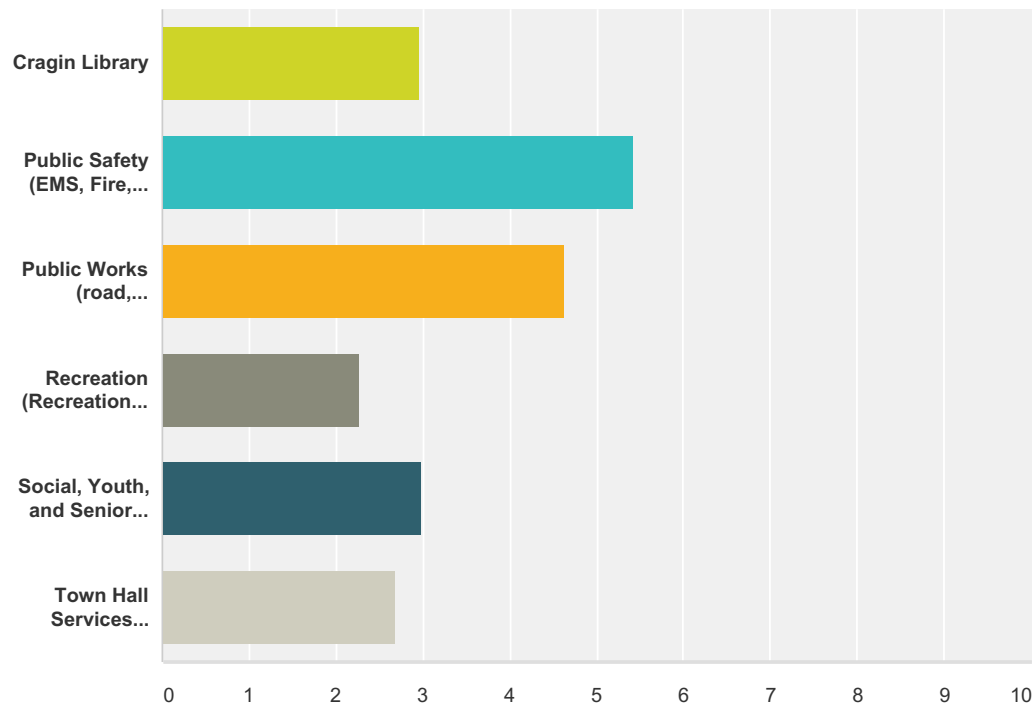
	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total	Score
Cragin Library	4.38% 27	9.58% 59	21.27% 131	26.46% 163	19.64% 121	18.67% 115	616	2.97
Public Safety (EMS, Fire, Police)	69.32% 427	16.40% 101	7.79% 48	2.92% 18	1.14% 7	2.44% 15	616	5.43
Public Works (road, building, equipment, vehicles, field maintenance)	15.26% 94	51.46% 317	20.94% 129	7.47% 46	3.73% 23	1.14% 7	616	4.64
Recreation (Recreation staff and administration)	1.62% 10	3.73% 23	9.09% 56	24.03% 148	29.71% 183	31.82% 196	616	2.28
Social, Youth, and Senior Services	4.87% 30	10.06% 62	19.97% 123	23.54% 145	27.44% 169	14.12% 87	616	2.99
Town Hall Services (Building Dept, Finance, Town Clerk, Assessor, Tax Collector)	4.55% 28	8.77% 54	20.94% 129	15.58% 96	18.34% 113	31.82% 196	616	2.70

Q5 When considering each of the following Town service categories, how do you believe each should be funded?

Answered: 623   Skipped: 36
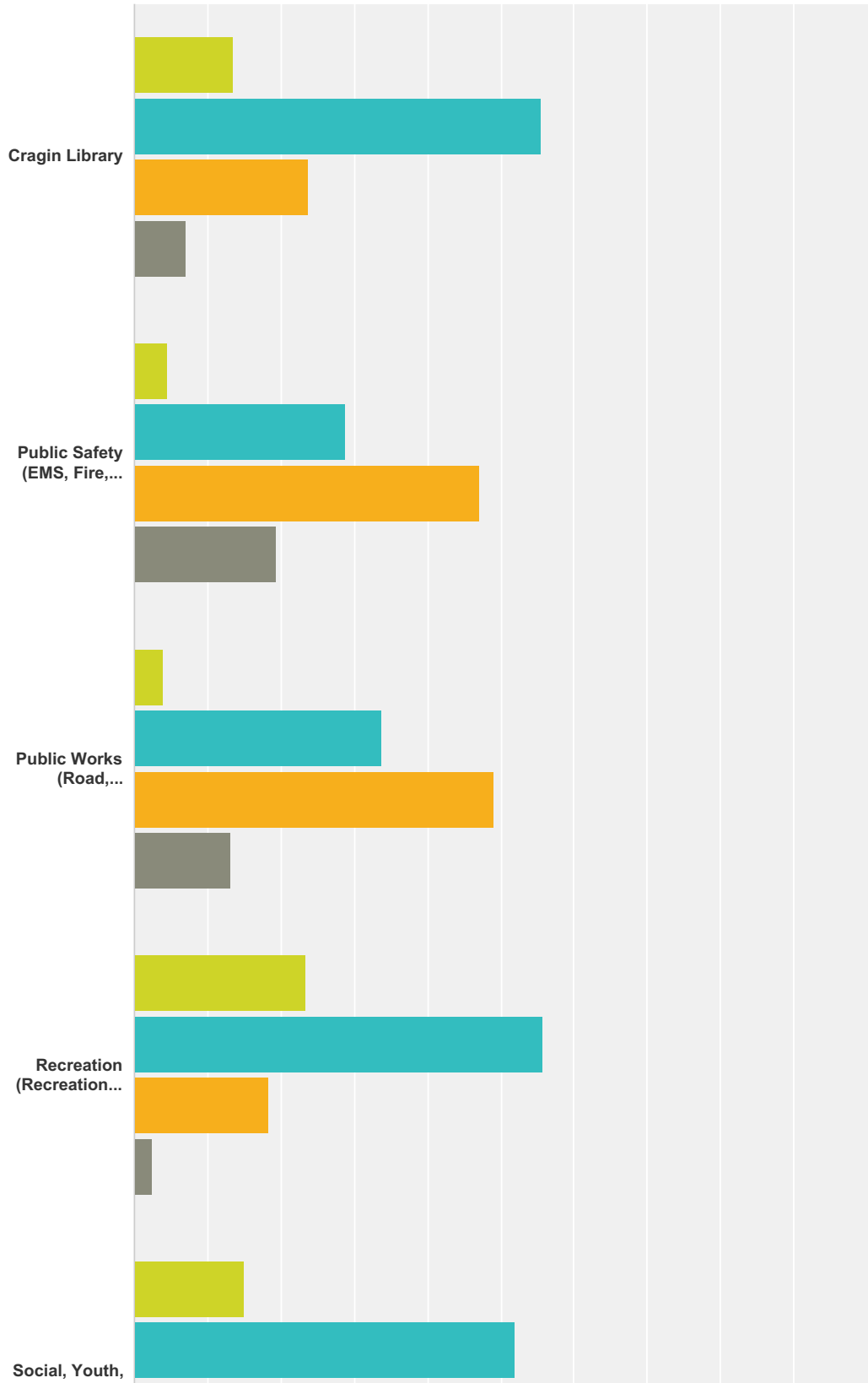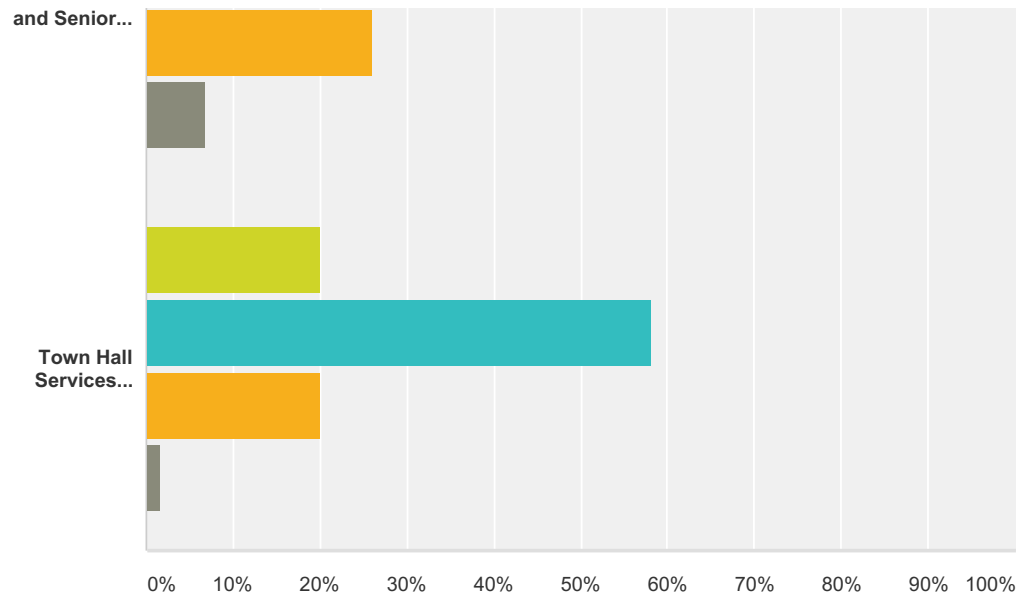
|	Decrease funding (resulting in a decrease in services)	Maintain funding (which may result in a decrease in services)	Increase funding (to maintain services)	Increase funding (to increase services)	Total
Cragin Library	**13.55%** 84	**55.48%** 344	**23.87%** 148	**7.10%** 44	620
Public Safety (EMS, Fire, Police)	**4.52%** 28	**28.87%** 179	**47.10%** 292	**19.52%** 121	620
Public Works (Road, Building, Equipment, Vehicles, Field Maintenance)	**4.04%** 25	**33.76%** 209	**49.11%** 304	**13.09%** 81	619
Recreation (Recreation staff and administration)	**23.31%** 145	**55.79%** 347	**18.33%** 114	**2.57%** 16	622
Social, Youth, and Senior Services	**15.02%** 93	**52.02%** 322	**26.17%** 162	**6.79%** 42	619
Town Hall Services (Building Dept, Finance, Town Clerk, Assessor, Tax Collector)	**20.03%** 124	**58.32%** 361	**20.03%** 124	**1.62%** 10	619

Q6 Please use this space to add additional comments about Town priorities and budget.

Answered: 85   Skipped: 574

Q7 As the cost of most things goes up every year, maintaining current services generally requires an increase in the amount budgeted to pay for them. Revenue used to pay for services is comprised of "non-tax" revenues (State Aid – Town, State Aid – Education, and local fees) and tax revenues, a function of the grand list (the valuation of all real property, personal property and motor vehicles) and the taxation rate. Our best estimate at this time as to the impact of revenues on our ability to maintain services is estimated below. The actual amount when the budgets are finalized could be lower or higher than these estimates. What percent of a tax increase would you find acceptable, given the effect on services? (Choose one)

Answered: 616   Skipped: 43
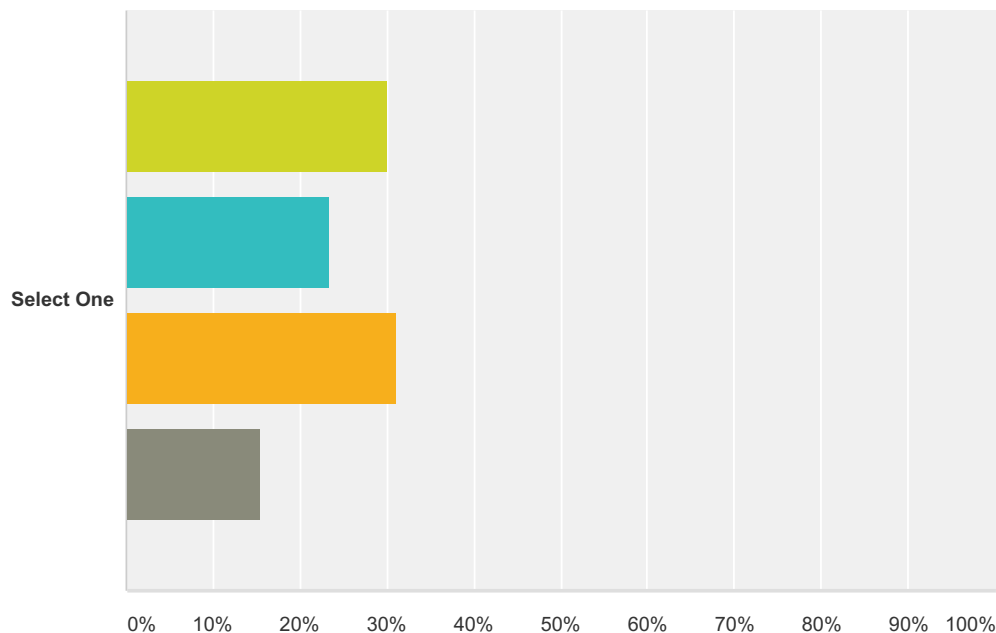
- No increase: Will Reduce Services
- 0.1 to 2% increase: Likely Reduce Services
- 2.1 to 3% increase: Estimated to Possibly Maintain Services
- >3% increase: Possibly Increase Services

	No increase: Will Reduce Services	0.1 to 2% increase: Likely Reduce Services	2.1 to 3% increase: Estimated to Possibly Maintain Services	>3% increase: Possibly Increase Services	Total

Select One	**30.03%** 185	**23.38%** 144	**31.17%** 192	**15.42%** 95	616

Q8 Additional Comments regarding question 7:

Answered: 114   Skipped: 545

Q9 [Please answer questions 9 and 10 if you did not vote in the last Colchester budget referendum, otherwise, skip to question 11.]Please indicate the reason(s) you did not vote in the last Colchester budget referendum.(Choose all that apply)

Answered: 112   Skipped: 547
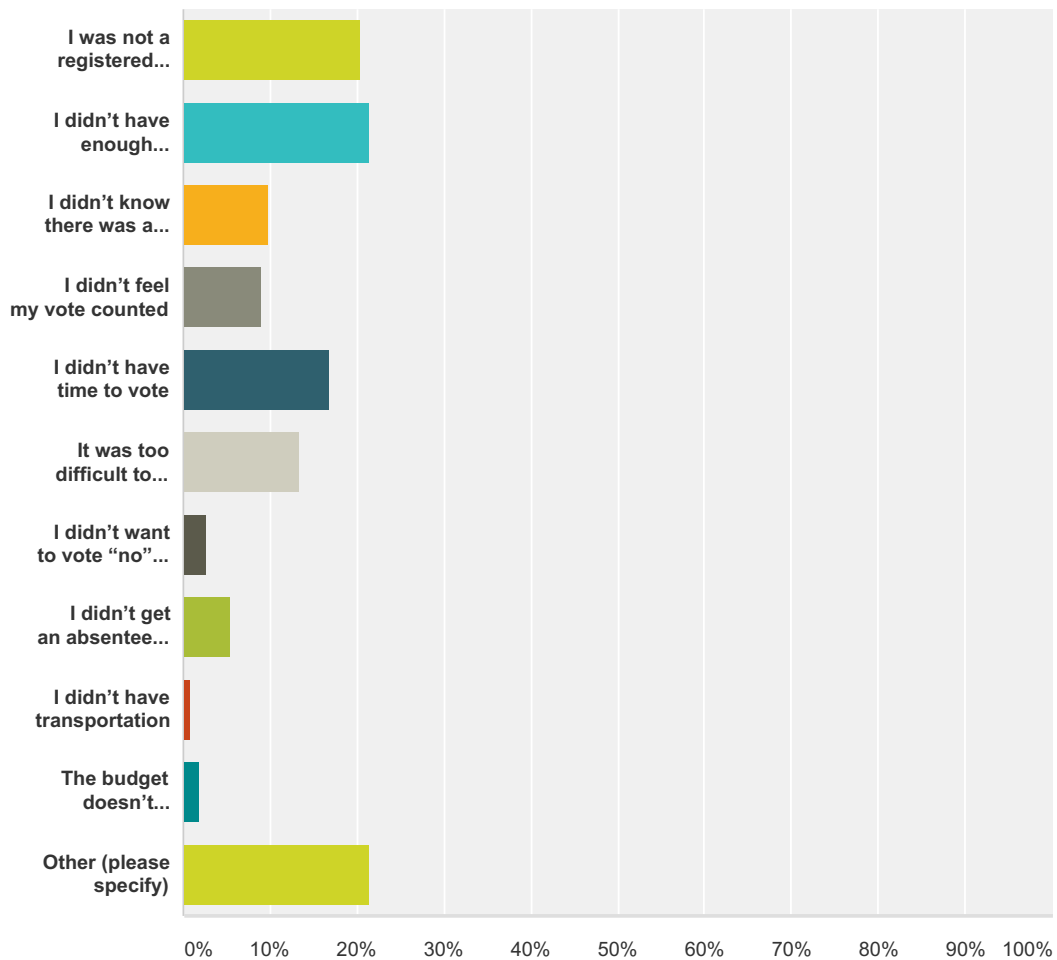
Answer Choices	Responses	
I was not a registered voter	**20.54%**	23
I didn't have enough information to vote	**21.43%**	24
I didn't know there was a vote that day	**9.82%**	11
I didn't feel my vote counted	**8.93%**	10
I didn't have time to vote	**16.96%**	19
It was too difficult to make it to the polls	**13.39%**	15

I didn't want to vote "no" so I didn't vote at all	**2.68%**	3
I didn't get an absentee ballot	**5.36%**	6
I didn't have transportation	**0.89%**	1
The budget doesn't interest me	**1.79%**	2
Other (please specify)	**21.43%**	24
Total Respondents: 112		

Q10 If you did not vote in the last Colchester budget referendum, what could be done to assist you - or what barriers removed - to ensure you vote in the next budget referendum?

Answered: 42   Skipped: 617

Q11 What is/are your preferred source(s) of information to learn about the town budget, school budget, referendums and when to vote? (Choose all that apply)

Answered: 596   Skipped: 63
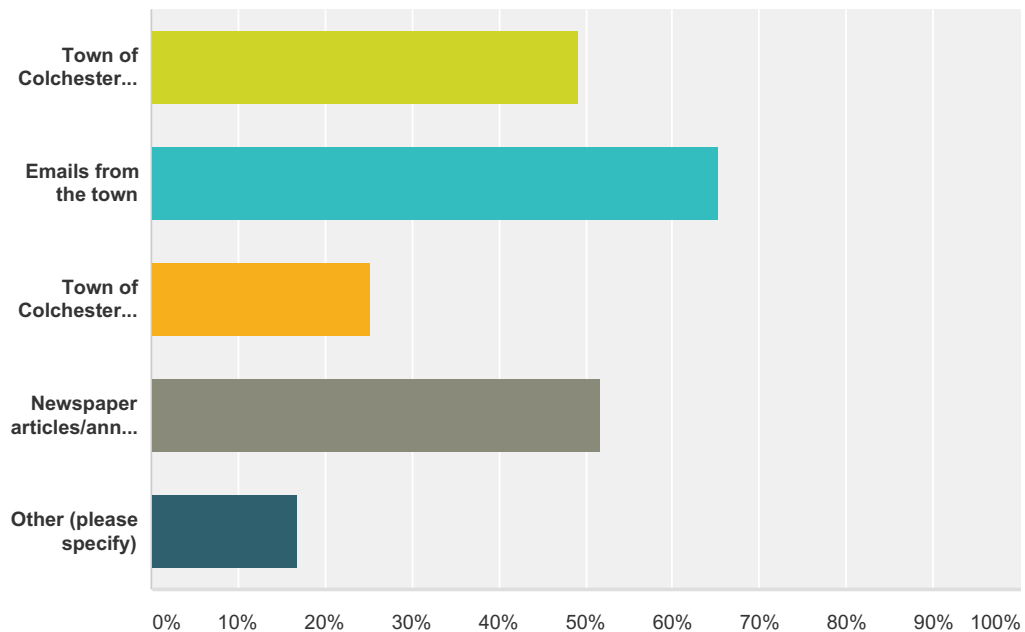
Answer Choices	Responses	
Town of Colchester website	**49.33%**	294
Emails from the town	**65.27%**	389
Town of Colchester First Selectman's Facebook page	**25.17%**	150
Newspaper articles/announcements (please specify preferred newspaper)	**51.68%**	308
Other (please specify)	**16.95%**	101
Total Respondents: 596		

Q12 What is your age group? (Choose one)

Answered: 619   Skipped: 40
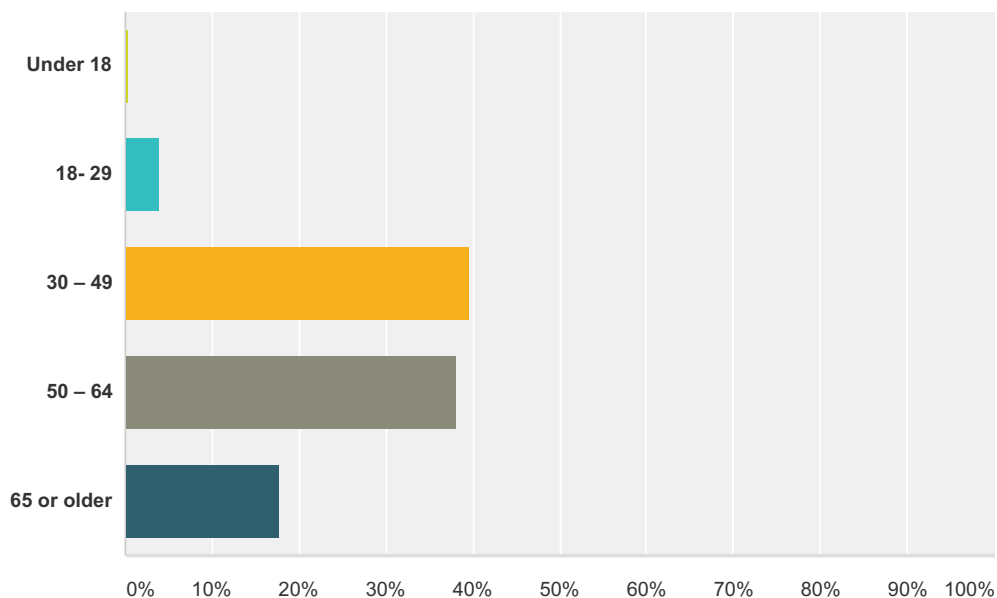
Answer Choices	Responses	
Under 18	**0.32%**	2
18- 29	**4.04%**	25
30 – 49	**39.58%**	245
50 – 64	**38.29%**	237
65 or older	**17.77%**	110
Total		**619**

Q13 Please share information about any children in your household.(Choose all that apply)

Answered: 612   Skipped: 47
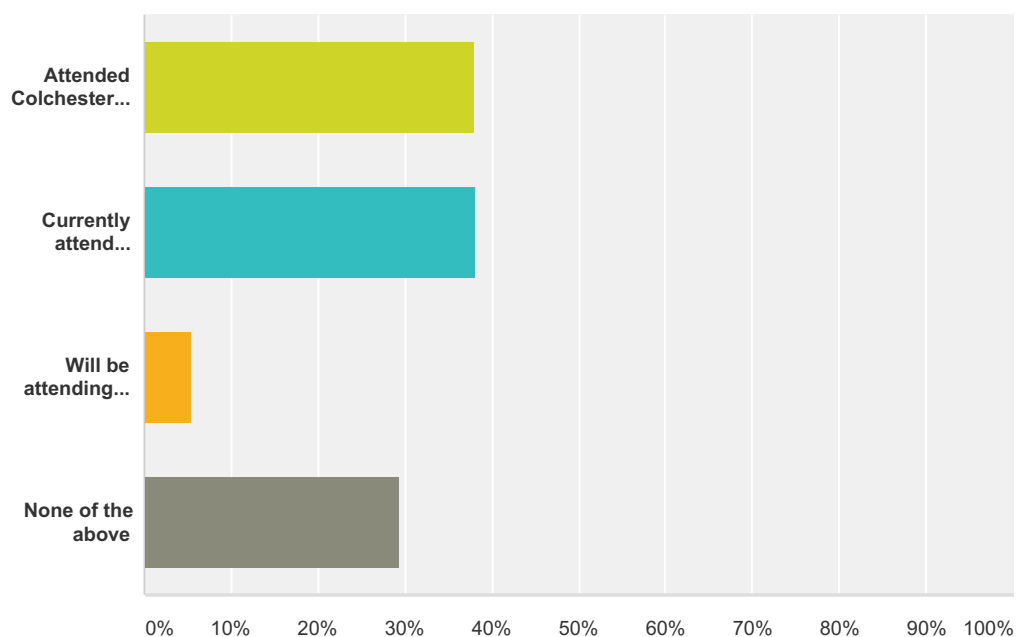
Answer Choices	Responses	
Attended Colchester schools	**38.07%**	233
Currently attend Colchester schools	**38.24%**	234
Will be attending Colchester schools	**5.39%**	33
None of the above	**29.41%**	180
Total Respondents: 612		

Q14 Please indicate the services you and/or your family have used or events in town attended in the past year. (Check all that apply)

Answered: 591   Skipped: 68
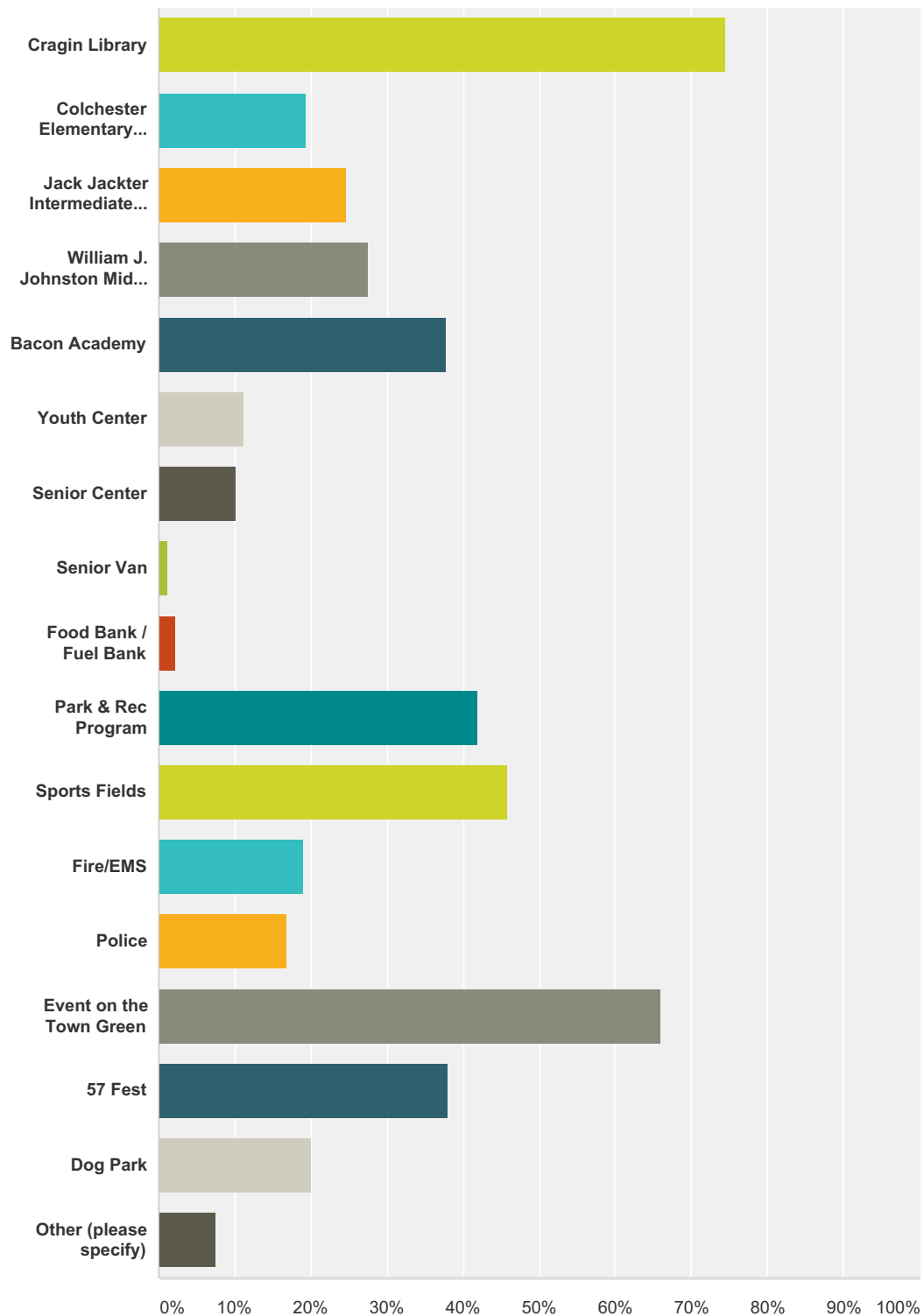
Answer Choices	Responses	
Cragin Library	**74.62%**	441
Colchester Elementary School	**19.46%**	115
Jack Jackter Intermediate School	**24.70%**	146
William J. Johnston Middle School	**27.58%**	163
Bacon Academy	**37.73%**	223
Youth Center	**11.34%**	67
Senior Center	**10.15%**	60
Senior Van	**1.18%**	7
Food Bank / Fuel Bank	**2.20%**	13
Park & Rec Program	**41.96%**	248
Sports Fields	**45.85%**	271
Fire/EMS	**18.95%**	112
Police	**16.92%**	100
Event on the Town Green	**65.99%**	390
57 Fest	**38.07%**	225
Dog Park	**19.97%**	118
Other (please specify)	**7.61%**	45
Total Respondents: 591		

Q15 Please use this space for additional comments you would like to share with town or school officials.

Answered: 150   Skipped: 509